Oct, 19

We plan to send you what you want tomorrow. Shouldn't be too hard. I mean exterior only.

After we came back from the West Coast, we went to the Michigan-Purdue game. Meanwhile, our son and his wife had come in from Puerto Rico, with ten days to wind things up before they leave for Venesuela. Our son was required to have four wisdom teeth pulled, and his wife had two. (I don't know why).

Now I've been through the same thing, as has our youngest, and while it's no picnic, I never thought it would be like this.

When I saw those two kids, I thought for a minute I was going to cry. They should have been hospitalized. In four days they had each lost 15 lb., and I'm no lily-liver, but they didn't HAVE any necks, the swelling was so grotesque; and the pain must have been darn near unbearable. The stitches will be removed today, and in the morning they catch an extremely early flight. Even their posture was somewhat crouched.

Oh, well, enough of that. But I never felt so sorry for two kids in my whole life. And it wasn't just because they are our kids.

Say, honey, if you want to see two old ugly familiar faces, look on page 66, LIFE, Oct. 21....Left to right we are Bill Turner (Ramparts); Penn; Ed Keating (owner and publisher of RAMPARTS; me - and I'm so glad that I'm obscure, stringy hair, wrinkled clothes) - Dick Stark, ass't producer of Mark Lane's RUSH TO JUDGMENT TV thing, and Louise Lacey (Ramparts).... Don't know what the others felt, but I was singularly unimpressed with Rev. Boyd. Somehow or other, you just can't mix up true religion with prayers, expressions that are tasteless past the point of vulgarity, etc. Meanwhile being accompanied by classic guitar.

It sounds as though youand Lillian should possibly slow down a little bit. Listen, my friends, you've got to live and feel well. Because you are very important.

A TV thing for Walter Kronkite is due to arrive tonight, possibly tomorrow. The more Penn takes this in his usual peppy way, the more withdrawn I feel. Please understand, I like people. I love people, but maybe 5 or 6 is enough for me at one time....Mike is just like his old man. An 80,000 crowd doesn't bother hime. He did a pretty good job last Saturday at the game. 18, freshman, featured twirler.

The University of Michigan Band is GLORIOUS, described in the N. Y. Times as the best band in the world. They have travelled all over Europe, even Russia.

Do you think you should write this fellow? All he has to do is ignore your letter. Do you think it better to take someone with you? The two sound better to me, but I'm no expert.

With friendship,

L. A.

Yes, I will find out what it that I take before flights...Pressurized planes are SO DIFFERENT. I had trouble only once, and it was brief. But I never take chance.